

TAKE ACTION ON WAGE PROVISION IN R. R. BILL

TEMPORARY INJUNCTION AGAINST SHIP SALE Labor To Enter A

STATUTES DO NOT GIVE BOARD POWER TO SELL 30 SHIPS

Chairman Payne Gives Notice Appeal From Decision Will Be Filed at Once—Hearst Must Give Bond to Protect Against Loss From Liners Lying Idle.

Washington, Feb. 19.—A temporary injunction to prevent the sale of the thirty former German passenger liners recently offered by the board was granted today by Associate Justice Bailey of the District Supreme Court.

Justice Bailey said that after a careful examination of the statutes he was of the opinion that they did not show an intention on the part of Congress to place in the president of the shipping board the power to sell the ships.

Application for the injunction was made last Saturday by William R. Hearst, and hearing on it was held last Monday while the ships were being offered at public auction. The board announced yesterday that it had decided to reject all of the bids received. At the same time it asked Congress for authority to offer the ships again at public auction.

Chairman Payne of the Shipping Board announced that an appeal from the temporary injunction order would be filed immediately. Meantime, he said, it was expected that Mr. Hearst would be required to furnish bond to protect the board against loss by reason of the ships lying idle.

Justice Bailey's decision sustained contention of counsel for Mr. Hearst that the German ships were seized under distinct legislation and that the board's power of disposition did not apply to them. Assistant Attorney General Ames representing the government contended that the law of 1917 was broad enough to cover the ships in question in that it authorized sale of vessels acquired previously of the government.

Bids amounting to \$6,510,000 were received by the Shipping Board for seven former German passenger ships over 20 years old that the board has listed as "valueless," Commissioner Raymond B. Stevens, former vice chairman of the board, testified today before the Senate committee investigating the sale of the ships.

Mr. Stevens said that the board's policy was to charge off five per cent. a year for depreciation and that the board, therefore, had held that ships 20 years old or more were worth less. As a matter of fact, he said, the seven ships were valued by the board at \$10,000,000. The bids received for them were: Amphion, \$512,000; Susquehanna, \$500,000; Nansund, \$900,000; Acolus, \$1,048,000; Princess Matoika, \$1,125,000; Antigone, \$1,200,000; and Pookhontas, \$1,453,000.

The value of the 30 German ships offered for sale was two to three times the amount of the bids received, Mr. Stevens said, their real value being between \$68,000,000 and \$79,000,000.

Although he asked that the ships be appraised by experts outside the Shipping Board and that he be allowed to sit with them, Mr. Stevens said he was not notified when the experts met and knew nothing of the appraisal until it appeared in the committee's record. The appraisal was made by Frank S. Martin and J. Howard Gardner, of New York, both recognized marine experts, he said, but it did not represent the "real value" of the vessels.

GREELY GIVEN RESENTMENT BY JUDGE THOMAS

Hartford, Conn., Feb. 19.—John Greely, of Danielson, game poacher and dealer in game out of season, recently convicted in violation of the migratory bird law, was re-sentenced today by Judge Thomas Greely, pronounced when sentenced to three months that he would tell the government how he evaded the law in shipping game, and how many in New York were able to dispose of the game. There have been many convictions in New York lately. Greely's new sentence was made 71 days, and as he had served 71 days he was at once released.

Jenkins Case Is Up Again

Authority to Act As Consular Agent Revoked.

CONTROVERSY AS TO JURISDICTION

Mexico City, Feb. 19.—As a result of a controversy between the courts of Puebla as to jurisdiction, the case of W. O. Jenkins, U. S. Consular Agent in that city, is again before the supreme court. Following the arrest of Mr. Jenkins last November various charges, including aiding rebel forces in that district, the supreme court decided the federal court in Puebla had authority to try the case.

Judicial investigation, however, was pushed by Julio Mitchell, state prosecutor of Puebla, in the criminal court, the prosecutor in the meantime stating in several issues that Jenkins was guilty of crimes charged against him. It was recently announced that Jenkins' authority to act provisionally as consular agent had been revoked and that he would probably be expelled from the country, if convicted in court.

Press reports regarding the Jenkins investigation in Puebla and also Prosecutor Mitchell's statements have always mentioned the Puebla criminal court as the tribunal investigating the case, despite the fact that the supreme court's ruling determined the jurisdiction of the federal court. Documentary claims from the Puebla criminal and district courts were received yesterday by the supreme court, and it appears that the controversy between the tribunals in Puebla is not considered settled.

Throughout the proceedings Jenkins has been attempting to secure trial before the federal court.

MUCH AGAINST TURK CONTROL OF CONSTANTINOPLE

Took Five Large Sound Tugs To Get Boats In Harbor.

London, Feb. 19.—The latest developments in the Turkish situation have pushed the Adriatic question into the background in both public and official interest. The reservations which France and Great Britain have made with regard to the retention of the Turks in Constantinople have aroused strong feeling in parliament, where the opposition strongly objects to a settlement of the Turkish question without reference to the commons. Particular antagonism has been aroused in opposition quarters to the decision to permit the Sultan to retain sovereignty over Constantinople.

The keenest interest has been manifested by the public regarding the proposal which has developed to force a debate on the whole subject in the House of Commons late today.

When the allied supreme council met this morning it again took up discussion of the Turkish question.

Understood President Has Answered Contentions of Supreme Council Point For Point—Adheres To Position Taken in Note of February 10.

NOTE ON ADRIATIC QUESTION FINISHED; WILSON IS FIRM

Washington, Feb. 19.—President Wilson today completed his reply to the allied supreme council's note on the Adriatic question and sent it to Acting Secretary Polk, who is putting it in form for transmission to the council. It is expected to be on the cables before night.

There was no indication as to the note's contents or its length. The President began drafting it early this morning and completed it in two hours. The council's communication which was received only yesterday and the speed with which the reply was prepared here was said to constitute something of a record.

The President went to his study at 9:30 a. m. and, summoning his stenographer, immediately began dictating the reply. He was understood to have answered the council's contention point for point and to have adhered to the position taken in his note of February 10.

It is now pretty well established that in that communication the President informed the allied countries that if they proceeded to a settlement of the Adriatic question without the consent and participation of the American government the United States might have to decide whether it could become a party to the treaty of Versailles and the Anglo-French-American pact.

The note received from the council yesterday was sent to the White House immediately after it was decoded and the President studied it very carefully during the afternoon and evening. When he was ready to begin work today he was understood to have had his reply well outlined in his mind, and consequently was able to dictate it in a short time.

The President was represented as being perfectly willing for the changes to be given to the public after he had "completed his case," which was done with the drafting of the note today. However, no decision as to making the communications public will be reached until the allied premiers have been heard from. They have been approached as to their wishes.

MAY BE GRAND JURY INQUIRY ON HOTEL FIRE

Cannot Locate Definitely 25 Guests of Lorraine.

Providence, R. I., Feb. 19.—Unable definitely to locate 25 guests of the Hotel Lorraine, which was burned yesterday with a loss of three lives, police and fire officials today made further search of the ruins. It was their opinion, however, that the missing ones had escaped but had not yet found it convenient to send word of their safety. In several instances other guests have said they saw on the streets after the fire persons who are listed as missing.

Official investigation was directed toward determining whether the condition of the building and the fact that warning to guests was said to have been delayed while employees were fighting the fire, warranted a grand jury inquiry.

DOCTOR SUES WILCOX ESTATE FOR COMPENSATION

New Haven, Feb. 19.—Dr. Emmott Page, of New York city, in the United States court today sued the Mechanics' Bank of New Haven, trustee of the estate of the late Ella Wheeler Wilcox. The allegation is that while homeward bound on the steamer Aquitania, last July, Mrs. Wilcox sent Dr. Page a wireless message that she was ill and desired him to meet her. Dr. Page says he met her, brought her to Short Beach, and gave treatment for which he has not been compensated.

18,000 TONS OF COAL BROUGHT IN BY BARGES

Development Pushes Adriatic Into Background.

After battling all day yesterday and all of last night against the large fields of ice and the wind in the Sound, 18 barges containing about 1,000 tons of coal each, arrived in Bridgeport harbor early this morning.

It took the combined efforts of five large Sound tugs to get the barges here, when in ordinary weather one tug would have been able to handle that number of barges.

The captains report that conditions on the Sound are worse than they have been for years and that it is very risky to send one tug out alone with barges.

With the receipt of this amount of coal the situation here is greatly relieved and as ordinarily the ice on the Sound breaks up by March 1st it is believed the amount of coal on hand will last until that time.

POOCH GIVEN JAIL TERM FOR STEALING CAR

Took Automobile While on Period of Probation.

William Pooch of this city, who stole an automobile from Warren Blatz, an employee of the Bridgeport Brass Co., was sentenced to jail for one year by Judge Curtis in the Criminal Superior court this afternoon. State's Attorney Cummings declared Pooch had been before the court at the last term on the charge of stealing automobiles. He was placed on probation but during this period he took Blatz's attending the theatre on the night of the theft and had parked his car on Gold street, near Main. It was found that Pooch took the machine to a garage on North avenue where he stripped it and sold it to various local dealers. There are said to have been others implicated in the series of auto thefts which kept the police busy a few months ago but Pooch has refused to give the police the names of any other culprits.

CANADA IS TO INSIST ON HER PLACE IN LEAGUE

Winnipeg, Man., Feb. 19.—Either Canada or the United States would have to step out of the League of Nations under the League reservation proposed in the United States Senate and Canada will insist on its right to a place, Arthur Meighen, Minister of the Interior, asserted in an address before the Winnipeg board of trade. Membership in the league without power to vote, he said, would be a sham.

The signs are not so reassuring as we would like," Mr. Meighen continued. "Representation obtained by Canada is essential if the right of the Canadian people to nationhood is not to be abrogated. Canada can recognize no league in which we have a part where our vote and representation are not conceded."

LAW HOPES TO INTRODUCE IRISH BILL TOMORROW

London, Feb. 19.—Andrew Bonar Law, the government spokesman, stated in the House of Commons today that it was hoped to introduce the Irish home rule bill tomorrow.

The second reading of the bill he added, would be taken as soon as the House had had time to digest the bill.

JUDGE LIGHT HAS BEEN DELEGATED TO INVESTIGATE FACTS

Counsel For Lawyers Moved For Immediate Hearing Which Was Refused By Judge Bartlett—Cases Considered of Vital Importance to Bar.

A new feature was injected into the conspiracy case involving four Bridgeport lawyers in the City court this morning when it came up before Judge Frederic A. Bartlett on a continued hearing from February 9, the new feature being the entrance of former Attorney General John H. Light delegated by State's Attorney Cummings' office to investigate the charge of conspiracy brought against Attorneys Harry Mesard, Henry Greenstein, Francis J. Breen and Solomon Badesch.

Judge Light after being introduced to the court by Prosecutor A. L. DeLaney immediately asked for a continuance of two weeks in order to fully acquaint himself with the facts of the matter and enable him to give a fair and unbiased review of the affair.

In opening the case Prosecutor DeLaney called the attention of the trial to the fact that the case was of vital importance not only to the men accused but to the bar of the county and the people of the community. Because of rumors that he had been friendly with one of the accused, Mr. DeLaney stated, it had been thought advisable in the State's Attorney's office that some one not connected with the matter and a non-resident of Bridgeport be picked to investigate the evidence on either side.

After Judge Light's request for a continuance Attorney Henry E. Shannon, for the defense, made an urgent plea for immediate trial, calling attention to the fact that the accused had been already under more or less of a strain for the past 10 days and that a further continuance would work more hardship on them. He further stated that on the first appearance in court of the case Prosecutor DeLaney stated that if he found no probable cause he would unhesitatingly say so today and that he had, in Mr. Shannon's opinion, ample time in which to make this investigation and his subsequent report.

Upon the conclusion of Attorney Shannon's remarks, Attorney Jacob B. Klein, also for the defense, spoke along somewhat the same lines, emphatically stating that whatever claim of friendship between DeLaney and one of the accused there might have been it was wiped out entirely by the arrest of the four lawyers.

"Personally we do not object to the entrance of Judge Light in the case," said Attorney Klein, "but we do not think it necessary. Isn't the prosecuting attorney of this court competent to conduct the business and isn't the court itself familiar enough with the law to decide whether the case should go on or not? Why should the State's Attorney's office be called into the case? Can this office make a case where none exists?"

"It is a denial of justice not to permit this case to go on. DeLaney is just as ready to go on with this case now as he will be in two weeks. We don't want to believe that this court cannot try the case!"

"The only conspiracy in this case is the conspiracy which caused the arrest of these men and we urge a speedy trial in order that those accountable for it may be pulled from the pedestals they occupy."

Here Klein was interrupted by DeLaney who asked whether he was included in the list of conspirators, to which Attorney Klein responded in the negative, although stating that he did think DeLaney might have investigated more thoroughly.

Continuing, Attorney Klein said, "It seems a shame that we have to ask justice, to plead with this court for trial. As Attorney Shannon stated I think a continuance of this case for another two weeks is inhuman."

Judge Bartlett, however, after considering the opposing claims, granted the continuance, pointing out that the other business altogether and that two weeks was not too long a time to get all the facts together.

Prosecutor DeLaney stated, after court that the appointment of some one to investigate the case from the (Continued on Page Eight)

Officials of American Federation Framing Letters.

TO COMMUNICATE WITH PRESIDENT

Washington, Feb. 19.—Protest against the wage provision of the completed railroad bill will be made in letters to President Wilson and Director General Hines which representatives of the railroad union organizations and officials of the American Federation of Labor were framing today at conferences at the federation headquarters.

Wage provisions of the redrafted railroad reorganization bill, reported to the Senate and House yesterday, were counted on to enter largely into the deliberations, beginning today, of the conference between Director General Hines and 25 leading railroad executives.

Sections of the revised measure which it is thought would attract most attention from the railroad executives were those prohibiting any reduction in the wages of railroad workers prior to September 1 and creating a permanent arbitration board of nine members, representing the public, the workers and the corporations.

The conference with the railroad executives was called by Mr. Hines to ascertain the attitude which the railroad corporations would assume toward the proposal advanced by President Wilson in his reply to the demands of railroad employees that a federal commission be appointed to consider the wage problem.

LENINE SOUGHT WORLD-WIDE REVOLUTION

Martens Says Many Changes Made in Soviet Government.

Washington, Feb. 19.—Many changes have been made in the original methods and laws of the Russian Soviet government, Ludwig C. A. K. Martens, its agent in the United States, testified today before the Senate Committee investigating Bolshevik propaganda in the United States.

Among other things he said, priests and clergymen, now can vote and press censorship had been abolished. Groups which criticize the soviet are tolerated and allowed to maintain newspapers the soviet government.

Wladimir Lenin, the soviet leader, was questioned by Martens on the basis of many documents and printed articles of soviet leaders. Martens said objections against religion expressed by soviet writers were personal and that the only object of the Soviet government was "to make religion free."

The witness admitted that after the Soviet government had offered to stop revolutionary propaganda in the United States and other countries, Lenin had written open letters urging revolt of the "proletariat" and that the third international at Moscow had urged destruction of all governments recognizing capital.

"We have played for an international revolution," Lenin said in a recent speech on Russian foreign politics which Mr. Ellis read.

Martens said this was merely in reference to "existing social conditions."

TEMPORARY FIRE HOUSE TO BE BUILT

Milford, Feb. 19.—The selectmen last night authorized the payment of \$250 to the Fort Trumbull Beach Fire Company to purchase lumber for the erection of a temporary house to take the place of the fire house that was destroyed by fire last week.

The temporary house will be erected on a lot adjoining the old house and will contain room for the housing of the chemical engine, with a sleeping room for one man and room for the meetings of the fire company and the Ladies' Auxiliary society.

The firemen will erect the temporary home themselves and will begin work Saturday.

STORM WARNING PREDICTS SNOW NEXT 24 HOURS

New York, Feb. 19.—The weather bureau today issued the following storm warning:

"Northwest storm warning 9:30 a. m. Atlantic coast, Delaware breakwater to Boston. Storm over Atlantic, south of Long Island, moving northeast. Strong northerly winds with snow indicated next 24 hours."